



*Image*

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: A7969

Salah Oweis, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/862,591

Group Art Unit: 1745

Confirmation No.: 8398

Examiner: John S. Maples

Filed: May 23, 2001

For: THERMAL MANAGEMENT BLANKETING AND JACKETING FOR BATTERY  
SYSTEM MODULES

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

**MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 16, 2004, in which the Examiner set a shortened statutory period response by one month, making a reply due on or before February 16, 2004.

In the Action, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following:

**Group I** Claims 1-21, 47-57, drawn to a first thermal management system for a battery, classified in class 429, subclass 120; and

**Group II** 22-46, drawn to a second thermal management system for a battery, classified in class 429, subclass 72.

Response to Restriction Requirement  
U.S. Application No. 09/862,591

Applicant hereby elects Group 1, drawn to claims 1-21 and 47-57 with traverse.

Applicant contends that the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, and that, as such, the Examiner must examine the entire application on the merits. MPEP §803. For example, the Examiner has already issued three Office Actions (i.e. February 4, 2003, July 15, 2003, and October 24, 2003) setting forth prior art rejections for the claims, of which claims 1-55 are listed in the application as of the original filing date. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that a complete examination on the merits is now in order. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that a personal or telephone interview would be helpful, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison M. Tulino  
Registration No. 48,294

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 3, 2004